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MEHL'S Numismatic Monthly

A NUMISMATIC JOURNAL FOR THE GENERAL COLLECTOR AND MORE ESPECIALLY FOR THE BEGINNER and YOUNG COLLECTOR

SUBSCRIPTION PRICE 50 CENTS PER YEAR

JANUARY
.....1908.....

B. MAX MEHL

FORT WORTH, TEXAS, U. S. A.

Newspaper and Magazine Clippings pertaining to Coins thankfully received
Contributions from those interested in the science solicited and liberally paid for

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Mehl's Numismatic Monthly

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B. MAX MEHL. Box 826. Fort Worth, Texas.

Mehl's Numismatic Monthly

Vol. I. FORT WORTH, TEXAS, JANUARY, 1908. No. 1.

ANNOUNCEMENT!

In offering "MEHL'S NUMISMATIC MONTHLY" for your attention and patronage I feel that you should know something about the publisher as well as my motive for publishing the "MONTHLY."

As to the publisher I only wish to mention my success in the Numismatic Field. Within less than two years I have succeeded in obtaining a good share of the confidence and patronage of the numismatists of the country. My sales for 1907 aggregate $25,000. And the prospects for the future are very promising indeed.

When I first began dealing in coins I devoted a few hours daily to same; now it requires, besides my entire time, two other assistants to handle my abundant business—the result of hard, honest and intelligent labors. And in these three principals I place my hopes for a successful future.

In this "NUMISMATIC MONTHLY" I intend to give such coin news as may interest those interested in our science, and especially to interest those who are not yet interested. Many interesting articles have already been promised me by able numismatic writers. Newspaper and magizine clippings pertaining to coins will be thankfully received; original articles will be paid for. Special offerings in coins will be made regularly. The subscription price of 50 cents per year I think reasonable and will only about half pay the expense of publication. I shall spare no labor nor expense in making "MEHL'S NUMISMATIC MONTHLY" a popular Numamistic Journal for the General Collector, and more especially for the beginner and young collector. Improvements will be made from time to time; suggestions regarding the betterment of the "MONTHLY" will be thankfully received and appreciated.

Hoping that you will find this initial number of "MEHL'S NUMISMATIC MONTHLY" worthy of your attention and trusting to be favored with your subscription for same, and assuring you of my efforts to merit your favors, I am, always glad to serve you,

Yours very truly,

B. MAX MEHL.

THE AMENITIES OF COIN COLLECTORS.

(Translation of the Chapter added to the Third Edition of Comm. Francesco Gnecchi's **Monete Romane.**)

(From Spink & Son's Numismatic Circular.)

As the man of society, the artist, the officer, the professional man, and the man of science must observe certain rules in dealing with their colleagues, so must the coin collector if he wishes to be regarded as a gentleman. The special courtesies of the collector can be reduced to a few precepts, but it is well to set them forth in this elementary pamphlet in order that the novice may avoid falling unawares into some lapse of good manners, which might do him harm and result in a serious hindrance to his career as a collector. Let us consider these precepts under three principal heads:

I.—Buying, selling and exchanging.

II.—The relations between collectors and the visiting of collectors.

III.—The correspondence and scientific discussion.

I.—BUYING, SELLING AND EXCHANGING.

These three operations may take place between dealers or other collectors. With the first the affair is comparatively fundamental, simple, and easy: the one offers his wares, the other either accepts the price asked or makes an offer.

To ask is reasonable, to offer is courtesy; as the proverb says—"the bargain is struck when both are agreed, the affair is concluded and all is over."

Some collectors are at the same time dealers. They collect on their own account, but if they find it advantageous they sell. These are classed as dealers. It must, however, be admitted that the true collector also, he who yields to no one a single piece of his collection, must of necessity become a trader on giving up a duplicate when he has found a better example, and to free himself from a quantity of duplicates on becoming possessed of a collection. The true collector ought to sell or exchange only with his equals—equal, that is, in experience and knowledge of coins. When the two collectors both know equally well the value of the objects bought or exchanged, there is no more danger of one believing, rightly or wrongly, that he is fighting with unequal weapons, but this danger exists and may be a source of unpleasantness in the contrary case—hence it is to be strongly recommended to the experienced collector not to have business relations with new collectors, but to leave them to gain their experience with the dealers. For however honest and upright his action may be it will never be held to be so by the novice, who, not being able to judge from his own knowledge, will always fear

he has been over-reached.

It is not necessary to say that any collector having the least doubt about a coin offered for sale or exchange ought to express it faithfully—this is not a question of courtesy but of honesty. Every collector ought to bear in mind that as a gentleman he is always obliged to make good a coin given as authentic but afterwards recognized to be false. The transaction may have been concluded in all good faith, on both sides, but when greater experience, a new idea, superior judgment, any circumstance whatever that many supervene, causes a coin counted authentic to be recognized as false, the owner must take back the object which no longer has any value to him who acquired it. Not all do this, but it is precisely on account of this that not all are gentlemen, and for this reason it is also better to treat only with those that are. When dealing with those who are not such, a blunder once made cannot be remedied. No one values the previous declarations of the seller that he holds himself responsible, that he will be ready to take back a coin if it should prove to be false, and so on. The case having occurred yours will be the loss, and the ridicule; and your reproaches will be unavailing. The rascal will escape, and holding no proof, in spite of all your good reasons, you will find yourself in the ridiculous position of those hundred men who armed at all points had no power to despoil a beggar!

With regard to buyers, there is another case which is a matter rather of conscience than of courtesy, in which the vendor is a person entirely ignorant of numismatics; a ploughman, let us suppose, who, working on the land, finds some coins, and offers them at a ridiculous price. It is quite lawful to purchase them at the price asked, especially when this price appears at least to be the intrinsic value, if the coins are of precious metal. If you are pleased with the Find it is a treasure to him who bought it, but no one is obliged on that account to buy the coins. The knowledge and learning of the collector deserve their reward.

The case is very different when any one, also entirely ignorant, offers coins for sale, saying: "Give me what they are worth—I trust you." If they do not interest you, they are soon answered, "The coins are worth so much, but do not appeal to me." If, on the contrary, you are interested, the thing is more difficult. Your honor does not allow you to offer a sum less than the true value, but on the other hand, the offer of the full value is dangerous, because the seller, generally, does not accept the first offer: he will inquire elsewhere and you will have made the affair easy for another, who will carry off the coins at a slight increase in the price. The only solution is to say: "Have the coins valued by a competent

person, then come to me, and we will see whether we can agree." As a general rule never make an offer except on a positive demand.

(Parts II and III to be continued in the February and March numbers of "The Monthly.")

AUTOGRAPH RECORDS.

At a recent sale of an autograph collection held in New York the following were some of the prices realized:

Marie Corelli, letter signed 1903	$ 4 00
Jefferson Davis, letter signed 1879	3 25
Andrew Jackson, document signed 1832	1 40
Rudyard Kipling, letter signed 1899	3 25
General Lafayette, letter signed 1816	2 50
General Meredith, letter signed 1886	8 00
John Marshall, letter letter signed 1820	6 00
Robert Morris, letter signed 1797	3 60
Lord Nelson, letter signed 1803	18 50
Alex. Pope, letter signed 3 pp.	27 00
MS. of "America"	8 00
W. M. Thackery, letter signed	18 25

Parties interested in autograph collecting may communicate with Mr. Walter R. Benjamin, 225 5th Ave., New York, who is a reliable dealer in same.

MEHL'S AUCTION SALE
Of November 16, 1907.

The following are some of the prices realized at above sale:

1797, $10 Gold, large eagle V. G.	$ 18 00
1799, $10 Gold, slightly circulated	18 25
1800, $10 Gold fine	29 00
1801, $10 Gold, very fine	14 50
1803, $10 Gold, fine	17 50
1798, $5 Gold, fine	12 00
1804, $5 Gold, extremely fine	12 50
1813, $5 Gold, extremely fine	10 50
1854, $3 Gold, D. mint, fine	24 00
1854, $1 Gold, D. mint, very fine	22 00
1863, $1 Gold, extremely fine	21 50
1865, $1 Gold, extremely fine	15 00
1851, $50 Gold, octagonal, good	135 00
1798, $1, Gold, small eagle 15 stars, good	4 50
1799 $1 Gold, 5 stars facing, fine	4 90
1801 Half Dollar, fair	2 00
1852 Half Dollar, P. mint, V. G.	3 50
1799 Cent, fair	7 00
1856 Flying Eagle Cent, proof	9 25
Carolina Gold $5, A. Bechtler, V. G.	35 50

Mehl's next sale will take place in January. It will contain, besides a fine lot of coins and paper money, an interesting collection of Indian Relics and Curios, the property of Mr. G. L. Faucher.

Catalogue may be had free by addressing B. Max Mehl, Numismatist, Box 826, Fort Worth, Texas.

THE STOCK OF GOLD IN THE UNITED STATES.

(American Journal of Numismatics.)

The report of the retiring director of the mint, Hon. George F. Roberts, on the stock of gold in the United States, is characterized by a painstaking effort to locate the holding of the precious metal. He finds that of an estimated total of $1,464,845,280, $1,109,458,000 is held by the Treasury and the National Banks. This fact is easily ascertainable, but as to the balance of $355,000,000 or more, Mr. Roberts has to resort to estimates. He thinks that $1,000,000 is in banking institutions other than national, which leaves something like $255,000,000 still unaccounted for, probably contained in the hoards of individuals and in private banking firms or institutions which did not respond to his inquiry. To those who ask "Where is all the gold of this country, and how are these figures consistent with the infrequency with which gold coins are encountered in every-day business?" No answer is afforded. A partial explanation of the later part of the question lies in the use of gold certificates, but it is somewhat strange that the average wage-earner or salaried man seldom handles a gold coin. With such an enormous accumulation of gold as there is in the United States at present, the most plausible explanation of its scarcity to the average man is the superior convenience of a paper money in which the public feels confidence.

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....., 1908.

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THE LIKENESS OF THE CENTS.

An Exception to the Rule Against .. Portraits on Coins.

Coins of most of the nations bear upon them the faces of their rulers. In the United States each coin has an emblem of Liberty.

The first coins struck after the formation of the Federal Union bore the face of George Washington. General Washington disapproved of the custom and it was dropped. It has never been revived.

Portraits of prominent Americans appear upon postage satmps, internal revenue stamps and paper money, but never on coins. And it has been the custom to use no portraits of living men even on the currency and the stamps.

In England, as soon as King Edward succeeded Queen Victoria the Queen's face gave way to that of Edward on all the coins and stamps in the British empire. The accession of a new ruler in most monarchics means an instant change in the designs of the coin.

But there is an exception to the rule of no portraits on American coins. The emblem of Liberty on the one-cent coin is the goddess in an American Indian head dress, but the face shows no characteristic of the North American aborigine.

It is the face of a little girl, Sarah Longacre Green, upon whose head was placed the feathered ornament of a Sioux Indian. Her father was an engraver and he placed his daughter's head on the coin.

Sarah Longacre Green died in Philadelphia not long ago, after having served thirty-five years as the secretary of the city's branch of the Methodist Women's Foreign Mission Society.

—The "Numismatist."

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Cut it out and send it with 50 cents. Use P. O. or Express Money Order, Registered letter or 1c Stamps.

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If you are interested in coins at all you will surely appreciate this magazine. Send in your subscription NOW, before you forget it. Only 50c a year — less than 5c per month.

B. MAX MEHL, Numismatist, Fort Worth, Texas, U. S. A.

BOX 826

COINS OF THE CENTURY.

Information in regard to new issues respectfully solicited.

The annexed interesting extract is from a letter lately received from an important official in Siam: "The copper coins in circulation are Lot, Att, Pie and Songpie of the first issue (with King's head).

First Issue—The coins show on one side the Siamese crown with the initials of the present king. The inscription to the left of the crown means "krung Siam county of Siam," to the right, rachagarn ti ha—(issued) under the fifth ruler (of the present dynasty)! On the reverse the coins bear surrounded by a wreath the value and the year of coinage. The inscription of the 1 att piece means "1 att, 8 make one fuang" on the Pie "1 siew; 4 make one fuang;" on the songpie "1 seek, 2 make one fuang." The names "siew" and "seek" are abolished and the words pie and songpie use dinstead of them. The lot piece of this issue is very scarce and cannot be supplied.

Second Issue—The coins show the picture of the present king with the inscription "Chulalongkorn, Rex—Perajula longclow, King of Siam." On the reverse they bear the Siamese coat of arms and the picture of a Siamese lady in court dress. This is apparently an imitation of the "Britannia" on the British penny. The inscription means one lot, one att and one pie respectively.

—Met. Philatelist.

U. S. Cents.

1798, very good	$ 45
1816, about fine	20
1818, Unc. mint red. only	65
1819, almost fine	40
1825, fine, scarce	30
1828, fine, scarce	30
1836, fine, almost V. F	50
1856, Flying Eagle, proof. Rare	12 00
1787, Mass. Cent., V. G	75
1787, N. J. Cent, good	75
1787, Franklin or Fugio Cent	70

Half Cents.

1787, Mass., good, scarce	$1 25
1811, Fair. Rare date	75
1828, 13 stars, unc	75
1835, Proof, or proof surface	75
1851, Unc. mint, red	45
1854, Proof surface	75
1856, Proof surface	75

Half Dimes.

1834, Proof. Scarce state	50
1838, Uncirculated	30

WHOLESALE

100 U. S. large Copper Cents	$ 3 50
100 U. S. Half Cents	15 00
50 U. S. Two-cent Pieces	2 25
50 U. S. 3c pieces (nickel)	2 65
50 U. S. Half Dimes	3 90
Washington Medal wood, interesting	50

Postage and registry fee extra on all coins. Satisfaction guaranteed.

B. MAX MEHL

Box 826 Fort Worth, Texas

4,000 YEAR-OLD MUMMY.

New York, Dec. 6.—What is perhaps the latest Egyptian mummy has come into the possession of the Metropolitan Museum of Arts and will soon be placed on exhibition. It was found by the expedition sent to Egypt last year by the museum. It is that of a woman and is said to belong to the twelfth dynasty, which flourished about 4,000 years ago. The mummy is said to be in excellent condition. In the coffin with the mummy was found a ceremonial whip of the Senbetes, said to be the only complete one ever discovered. A portion of the objects found by the expedition are now on exhibition and the rest will be placed in the galleries soon.

ROOSEVELT GOLD COINS.

New York Sun.

The irreverent expressions which the President declares are caused by the motto "In God We Trust" are as nothing compared with the profanity which provoked in the Philadelphia mint when the first attempt was made to strike the new gold coin from the Roosevelt-Saint Gaudens design. The presses in the big money-making establishment would not work at all when run at the ordinary rate of speed, and even now, after the introduction of special devices to overcome the difficulty, the conditions are far from satisfactory. Even at the Philadelphia mint, where the machines are used in making gold eagles have been altered to handle the new high relief dies, the work of turning out the coins is slow and expensive, while at New Orleans, Denver and San Francisco mints it is impossible to make the new coins at all.

The principal difficulty from a mechanical standpoint is that the design for the new coin provides for an extremely high relief on both sides of the piece, and the ordinary coin press used in the mints is incapable of turning out the coins in perfect condition. It was found immediately that nothing but a medal press could be used successfully without altering the machinery, and medal presses are run so slowly as to prohibit their use for ordinary coinage. To turn $10 gold pieces at the slow rate of speed accomplished by a medal press would make the coins so expensive that they could not be produced for general circulation.

The problem has been studied for several weeks by the mint officials and employes, with the result that the machines used on this particular coin have been provided with a mechanical attachment which permits the presses to be run at somewhere near the usual rate of speed. The same device will have to be installed in the other mints of the country. The ordinary gold coinage press turns out coins at the rate of nearly sixty a minute; that is, the press stamps coins in perfect condition almost as rapid-

ly as a watch ticks.

The difficulty will be multiplied by three when the mint undertakes to execute the gold coins of the double-eagle and five-dollar denominations after the new designs. It is possible also that two and a half dollar gold pieces will be executed after the new design, but it is not certain that the coinage of the denomination will be continued, as there is little call for these pieces.

It is an open secret that the new coin designs are not distinctly the work of Augustus Saint Gaudens, the noted sculptor, at all. The fact is that the coin has been changed in two or three respects from the design approved by the late sculptor, and that while the design was in preparation Mr. Saint Guadens was constantly embarrassed and restricted by suggestions and commands from the President. But even after the sculptor had finished his work and the design was approved by the higher executive, if not artistic, authority, modifications were made which change utterly the appearance of the finished coins. These changes were dictated by principal considerations, but, taken all in all, the new coins are badly botched, and so admitted to be by persons who have had experience in the coinage branch of the government.

Preparations are now being made to produce the double eagle, or twenty-dollar gold piece after the new design, but the design will have to be changed or at least an entirely new effect will be imparted to it to make the coin acceptable in business and in order that it may be produced economically by the mint. A few pieces from the double-eagle design have already been struck and they present a much worse appearance than the eagle piece, to which so much objection has already been made. Instead of the Mary Cunningham head, one side of the twenty-dollar piece bears the standing female figure of Liberty, holding in one hand a torch and in the other an olive branch. One foot rests on a rock or other object so that the right knee is prominent under the drapery which envelops the figure. On the reverse side instead of the standing eagle in trousers is the high relief figure of the bird of freedom flying apathetically through space with wings hardly half spread. As in the ten-dollar piece, the side view of the eagle is presented, but the conception is such that there is no action whatever in the figure. It more nearly resembles the bird on the old-fashioned "eagle" 1-cent coins of the fifties.

The twenty-dollar piece also differs from the ten-dollar coin in that the words "E Pluribus Unum" appear on the edge of the coin, alternating with stars to represent the states of the Union. After the design of the ten-dollar piece was approved it was found that the coin would not stack and so was unfit for circulation. At

about the same time the Philadelphia mint authorities called attention to the fact that the relief of the coin was so high that the piece would last only a few months in general circulation, so great would the damage from abrasion be.

Accordingly it was decided to reduce the relief presented by the Mary Cunningham head and the strutting eagle, and in addition to this it was decided to erect around the edge of the coin a high line or ring as a further protection against abrasion. The latter process had the effect of greatly emphasizing the "dished" effect of that part of the gold piece surrounding the head and the eagle, so that the whole appearance of the coin is as if the medallions on either side had been struck with a hammer until the center of the piece was sufficiently depressed.

The twenty-dollar piece nominally designed by Saint Gaudens, will have to be treated to a similar process, for the first pieces struck have convinced the mint authorities that the coins would last only a short time in circulation. The edge of the big coin is especially vulnerable, for the rim is exceedingly sharp and thin at the extremity. The medallion figures are also too prominent.

There is an interesting history connected with President Roosevelt's part in the new coinage design. The design which now appears on the "Liberty" side of the ten-dollar gold piece was intended by Saint Gaudens to be used for the copper cent, but the President liked it so well that he directed its use for the gold piece. There is, therefore, no new design for the one-cent piece, and it was learned today that one will be made probably in the near future, either by the mint designers or by an artist appointed for the purpose.

There has been no dcision as to the design to be used for the five-dollar gold piece. It is said by the Philadelphia mint people that neither the ten-dollar nor the twenty-dollar design is perfectly adapted for use on the smaller coin, but it is probable that the design will be the same as the one used for the eagle piece.

For some reason unexplained no new design was made for the 5-cent nickel.

SPECIAL.

In the next issue of "MEHL'S NUMISMATIC MONTHLY" we shall publish a "Letter From and Old Collector to His Nephew,"—a most interesting and instructive "letter," with numerous good hints and suggestions for the beginner and young collector. Don't miss it.

This magazine is always pleased to receive contributions on topics that interest you as a numismatist, and therefore should interest every collector of rare coins. Original contributions liberally paid for.

The newly elected officers of the American Numismatic Association are planning an unusually strong campaign in behalf of the association. If every collector of coins, not a member, would only know of the many advantages to be derived in being a member of our association he would lose no time in sending in his application. The benefits to be derived are too numerous to mention, but a postal addressed to either the corresponding secretary, Mr. Howland Wood, 93 Perry St., Brookline, Mass., or to B. Max Mehl, local secertary for the Southern States, Fort Worth, Texas, will bring you all necessary information.

Beautiful

PHILIPPINE COINS.

Have just secured a few proof sets of these artistic coins.

The ½ and 1 centavo, are with youth, anvil and volcano; reverse, eagle and legend "United States of America."

The 10c, 20c, 50c and $1.00 (or 1 peso) are with Goddess of Liberty; reverse, U. S. shield and eagle, legend.

These sets are in perfect brilliant state of preservation; the silver pieces are scarce; their exportation from the Philippines are now prohibited.

Price for the complete set only $2.75. (Postage and registry fee 14c extra.)

B. MAX MEHL,

Box 826. Fort Worth, Texas.

NUMISMATIC REVIEW OF 1907.

The year just past was, by far, the most successful and prosperous of any previous year known to the Numismatic History of the United States. The number of auction sales held during the year and the amounts realized at these sales, together with the records made for cetrain coins, show the enormous amount of "real coin" expended and the great interest prevailing for our science.

There were more than thirty auction sales of coins held in this country during 1907. The amounts realized at the sales aggregate about $100,000. The private sales of coins can also be estimated at almost that figure.

The most important sales held in the United States during the past year were the celebrated Stickney sale, catalogued by Mr. Henry Chapman, Jr. The total amount realized at this sale was $37,859.21, the greatest amount ever realized at one sale in this country. The Willson collection, catalogued by Mr. S. H. Chapman, total $16,763.80. And the Appleton collection of foreign coins, catalogued by Mr. Chas. Stiegerwalt and sold in New York, total about $8,000. Other sales were held by Green of Chicago, Elder of New York, Mehl of Texas, Low of New York and the St. Louis Stamp and Coin Co. Besides about every known variety of the Colonial series, every date and denomination, excepting one (1822 half eagle), of

the United States coinage was offered during the year. The world's highest record for a single coin was made duirng 1907, when Mr. Chapman purchased the Brashear Doubloon for $6,200. Another great record for a single coin was the 1804 U. S. silver dollar which was sold for $3,600. Other notable prices paid for rare coins during the year were: $5 gold 1815, $2,000; 1794 silver dollar, $190; 1839 silver dollar, $200; 1794 half dollar, $40; 1793 cent, $50; 1804 cent, $100; half cent of 1843, $115; 1819 $5 gold, $650; 1797 $2.50 gold, $250; gold dollar 1861, D. mint, $350 (sold at private sale by B. Max Mehl), the highest price ever paid for a single gold dollar. Another new record which is not likely to be exceeded for some time was made recently in New York at one of Mr. Low's sales, where an uncirculated 1806 U. S. silver 25c piece brought $160. This last record most emphatically shows that condition is what counts with the price of rare coins.

There were several very important sales of coins held in Europe. The one most interesting to American collectors was the collection of Bruce Cartwright, sold by Messrs. Sothbey, Wilkinson & Hodge of London, last June. The amount realized was over 3335 pounds, or about $16,000. This collection was especially rich in "Private Issues of Gold Coins." It contained about the finest lot of these rare pieces ever offered. The purchasers of nearly all these pieces were American collectors, and the prices realized were certainly all that they might have bought if offered in an American auction room. The Wass Molitor, 1855 fifty-dollar gold piece (round) brought $400; an F. D. Kohler ingot, intrinsic value $45.34, sold for $1,035; Mormon twenty-dollar gold piece, $155; ten dollars, no date "J. S. O." (Ormsby), $1,310. There are only two of the J. S. O. coins known, and the Kohler ingot is the only one known. There is one similar in the mint stamped $40.07.

The Strozzi collection sold at Rome in the latter part of April was one of the most noteworthy collections sold in recent decades. Representatives of all European Museums and prominent dealers and collectors were present. All coins sold for good prices. The collection was formed by the late Marquis Carlo Strozzi of Florence. He was more than half a century in bringing this important collection together.

Auction sales of fine Greek and Roman coins were held by Dr. Hirsch of Munich, whose sales of this class of coins are the finest in the world. His latest sale was that of the collection of H. C. Hoskier of New Jersey.

There were numerous other sales, more or less important, held abroad, the most noteworthy being those of Schullmann of Amsterdam.

An event of unusual importance to American numismatists

took place at Columbus, Ohio, in the latter part of September, when the American Numismitic Association held their tri-annual convention. It was the most successful convention ever held by the association. The rare coins on display at the convention being valued at $200,000. Many interesting lectures were delievered, papers read and important resolutions adopted. The American Numismatic Association is the representative association of American Numismatists. Every collector of coins should be a member of this association.

The past year saw the dispersion of some of the most famous private collections ever formed. New records were made. Old records "smashed." While de do not rejoice in the fact of a famous collection being dispersed in the auction room, yet there is always a little selfish satisfaction in the opportunity of obtaining a much desired for coin.

All in all "nineteen hundred and seven" was the most successful and prosperous year known to American Numismatics.

T. D.

WORDS IN GOD WE "TRUST"

Left Off of New Issues of Gold Coin.

Washington.—In answer to one of the numerous protests that have been received at the White House against the new gold coins which have been coined without the words "In God We Trust," President Roosevelt has written a letter which he today made public. The letter follows:

"When the question of a new coin came up we looked into the law and found there was no warrant therein for putting "In God We Trust" on the coins. As the custom, although without legal warrant, had grown up, however, I might feel at liberty to keep the inscription had I approved its being on the coinage. But as I did not approve it I did not direct it should again be put on. Of course the matter of law is absolutely in the hands of congress and any direction congress may make in the matter will be immediately obeyed. At present, as I said, there is no warrant in law for the inscription. My own feeling in the matter is due from a very firm conviction to such motto on coins or use it in any kindred manner, not only does no good, but does a positive harm, and in effect is irreverence, which comes dangerously near to sacrilege."

Fifty Dollar Gold Piece.

1851. Augustus Humbert, octagonal. Good condition. Price only $125. B. MAX MEHL,

Fort Worth, Texas.

We are in receipt of a most complete catalogue of coins, at fixed prices, from Mr. Sears. It is one of the finest catalogues we have seen and contains coins not often offered at auction or otherwise.

STOPS SALE OF COINS.

King Emmanuel Does Not Want Collection to Leave Country.

Rome, Nov. 18.—While the Nervegna collection of coins, considered to be one of the most important in the world, was being sold at auction in this city today, an official of the government appeared and stopped the sale of the rarest coins in the collection, which are valued at $600 each.

He explained his action by declaring that the coins in question should be considered as national treasures and that King Victor Emmanuel, who is an enthusiastic numismatist, did not wish them to leave the country.

THE LATEST TRIBUTE TO PHILATELY.

The latest tribute to Philately, remarks the Stamp Collector's Fortnightly, comes from the government of the Australian Commonwealth, which has decided that a representative of the Sidney Philatelic Society shall be chosen as one of the committee now being formed to discuss the question of uniform Australian postage stamps. This is a long delayed but none the less welcome public recognition of the frequent services rendered to the world's highest postal interests by the leading exponents of Philately. Perhaps it is not improbable that even the British government may one day deign to consult stamp collectors as to a subject on which they are certainly better qualified to speak than the average postal official.

And if it be true, as reported, that Mr. A. F. Bassett Hull has been nominated as the Sidney Society's repesentative on the committee, then the news is doubly welcome. Like Sam Weller's acquaintance with the ins and outs of London, Mr. Bassett Hull's knowledge of postage stamp production is extensive and peculiar. Apart altogether from the compliment to Philately, his selection to serve on the committee is a guarantee that the question of the best and most fitting type of stamp for the commonwealth's uniform series will receive ample attention, with a view to a creation of a series of stamps worthy of a great country and a great occasion.

"YE OLDE CURIOSITY SHOP"

On the water front of Seattle, Wash. It is the most unique store on the globe. Here are Alaska Totem Poles, Beaded Moccasins, Sea Shells, Corals, old relics of the Esquimox and natives of Puget Sound country, South Seas and the Arctic.

J. E. STANDLEY, Prop.
Coleman Dock. Seattle, Wash.

A Kansas collector recently purchased what he thought was a brilliant proof $4.00 gold piece or "Stella," and which afterwards turned out to be a copper coin gold-plated. This is the first intimation we have of the "gold brick" business prevailing in the coin business. We are not informed as to the final outcome of this "find."

NEW GOLD COINS.

Philadelphia, Dec. 4.—The first installment of new $20 pieces has been shipped from the United States mint in this city to various sub-treasuries about the country. There are 115,000 of them, their monetary value being $2,300,000. On one side of the coin is an eagle flying with outstretched wings, while on the other side is the figure of "Liberty." The coins are concave, the figures in high relief, nine strokes of the hydraulic press being required to make them. Hereafter only one stroke will be used, and thus the coins just circulated will be different from those to be put in circulation later.

The first number of the "American Journal of Numismatics," to be published under its new editorial board of the American Numismatic Society of New York, has been recently received. For thirty-seven years the "Journal" was issued under the direction of the Boston Numismatic Society. The "Journal" is the oldest magazine of its kind in America, and is the "top notch" of Numismatic Journalism, especially for the more advanced collector.

Mehl's seventh auction sale of coins will be held in the later part of January. It will contain, besides a fine lot of coins, an unusually interesting lot of curios, the property of Mr. G. L. Faunchcr. Catalogues free to all auction buyers.

STAMP COLLECTORS

Will please note the attractive bargains offered in this magazine by reliable Stamp Dealers and Philatelic Publications. When answering any of the advertisements please mention "Mehl's Monthly."

NEW ZEALAND BARGAINS.

Thirty-five all different New Zealand stamps 50c. All marked with Scott catalogue numbers and prices. All in good condition and catalogues over $1.50. All partially used. More than half of all New Zealand and Australian stamps in stock at about one-half catalogue prices. Lists free. Mention "Mehl's Monthly."

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Has for twenty-five years been in the business of supplying Original Autograph Letters of famous persons of all nations. He is recognized as the highest expert in his line in America. If you want a letter of any famous hero, or author, or actor, write to him and he will send price lists. He also publishes The Collector, a monthly magazine for autograph collectors. One dollar a year. Send for sample copy. Autograph letters bought.

CONFEDERACY CURRENCY.

Complete collection representing all the different denominations of the Confederate Currency, 50c, $1, $2, $5, $10, $20, $50, $100 and $500. The $500 is quite rare.

The entire collection of nine notes, face value $688.50. Price only $1.25.

B. MAX MEHL,
Box 826. Fort Worth, Texas.

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We have acquired a great mass of foreign stamps which has been made up into packets.

300 Varieties Each—All foreign.—All Clean All Different.

These packets will be presented new subscribers to Mekeel's Weekly Stamp News. One packet with each new six months' subscription. Remit 25 cents only and mention this publication. Mekeel's is the biggest, oldest and best stamp paper in the world. "Once a subscriber, always a subscriber.

MEKEEL'S WEEKLY STAMP NEWS.
Boston, Mass.

How to Detect "Washed" Stamps

M. Th. Lemaire gives collectors the following wrinkle as to the best way to tell whether a stamp has been cleaned, "washed," or discolored. Drop a very small drop of water on the face of the stamp; if, on turning over the stamp, one sees that the paper drinks in the water like a piece of blotting paper, one can be sure that the stamp has been treated by some chemical, either for removing the obliteration of for changing the color.

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What have you to sell?
64 page buying list, 10 cts., postpaid.

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A full year's subscription to Redfield's Stamp Weekly	$ 50
One packet of stamps cat. at	1 00
1000 best stamp hinges	10
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2 stamps cat. at 5c each	10
1 rare stamp cat. at 6c	6
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THE REDFIELD PUBLISHING COMPANY.

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These sets are offered as special inducements to collectors to invite their attention to the choice 50 per cent. discount selections that we send on approval. What is the size of your collection? We have something special for those whose collections are less than 3,000.

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LABAUN 4c.
With a Monkey on it.
A Curious Stamp
In Two Colors.

One of these curious and interesting stamps will be sent free with each answer sent from this advertisement, who mentions "Mehl's Monthly." We want collectors to investigate our admirable approval system. Special inducements to agents who have good trade in schools or stamp clubs. List Free. (Established 1877.)

C. H. MEKEEL,
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SCARCE U. S. COINS
For Sale at Reasonable Prices.

Silver Dollars.	
1795, small date, good	$3 75
1798, large eagle, fair	2 50
1799, 6 stars facing, very good	2 90
1802, Good. Rare date	3 25
1874, S. mint. Trade, scarce. Supposed to have an auction record above $50	1 50
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1871, Standard, proof, not perfect	1 25
1900, Washington-Lafayette, very good	2 25
Half Dollars.	
1892, Columbian, Brilliant	75
Quarters.	
1893, Isabella, uncirculated	85
Gold.	
1803, $5, very fine	$ 9 00
1810, $5, very good	8 10
1812, $5, very fine, rare	12 00
1839, $2.50, C. mint. V. G	3 50
1849, $1, open wreath, V. F.	3 00
1856, $1, upright 5, V. G., scarce	2 50
1871, Half Dollar, Calif., Liberty head, round, fine	2 25
1880, Half Dollar, Indian head, round, rare	2 25
1854, Quarter, Liberty head, octagon, unc.	2 50
1869, Quarter, Liberty head, unc	2 25
Regensberg, 1-8 ducat, unc., very small	1 10
1851, $50, octagonal, good	125 00

The complete set of Philippine coins, ½ centavo to 1 peso, all in brilliant proof condition, may be had at $2.75 per set from

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50 different U. S. stamps	04
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50 different Australian Stamps, only	11
20 different New Zealand Stamps, only	10
8 different Liberia Stamps, only	12
Canada King Heads, 1c to 20c	09
Canada Queens' Heads, 1c to 20c	25
Canada Jubilee Heads, 50c	17
Canada 1893, 20, 50c	15
Russia 1 Rouble	07
France, 1-2-5 fr, 1900	15
Great Britain Queen 2-6-5 sh	15
Great Britain King 2-6-5 sh	15
10 different Canada	01
10 St. Settlements	10

Scott's 1907 catalogue, post free with Omaha or Pan-Americans, only 60 cents.

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NUMISMATIST,
Box 826 Fort Worth, Texas.

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Complete set from 25c to $100—25c, 50c, $1, $2, $3, $10, $20, $50 and $100. The complete set of ten notes only $1.00.

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Peru, 1884, Un. Sol., very fine 1 00
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Spain, 1895, Alfonso XIII. Boy Head, fine ..... d 1 00
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